

House Resolution 256 also calls for keeping related strong sanctions on Russia for its illegal and aggressive actions in the Donbas region of eastern Ukraine, and for the full implementation of the Minsk agreements which, among other things, calls for the full removal of Russian military equipment, as well as illegal armed groups, fighters and mercenaries from Ukrainian territory . . .

This resolution also supports the U.S. European Deterrence Initiative program of military support to our Eastern European and Baltic allies, and calls on our European allies to make the promised investments in their individual, regional and collective defenses in accordance to the NATO guidelines for membership.

Finally, this measure acknowledges the valuable contributions by Central and Eastern European allies to NATO's collective security and peace operations around the globe, such as ongoing operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Kosovo.

This is an important message to send to our allies at a critical moment in history. I encourage my colleagues to join me in support.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. STEVE RUSSELL

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2018*

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, due to travel delays out of my control, I was unable to be present for votes on July 10, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 314 and YEA on Roll Call No. 315.

#### ATTACK ON THE MEK RALLY

##### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, recently a large group of Iranian dissidents held a peaceful rally in Paris calling for a free Iran. The participants expressed their demand for an end to the evil regime ruling Iran and a secular democracy put in its place.

We have seen countless times how the mullahs in Iran are not fans of Iranians rallying for freedom. Repeatedly they have responded with violence to crush protests in the streets of Iran, including public hangings of government protestors.

But this year they had the audacity to order an attack on the Iranian dissidents rallying in Paris. European police arrested multiple suspects armed with explosives, including an Iranian diplomat, who intended to target the rally that many Americans, including members of Congress, were attending.

The mullahs in Iran are the leading state sponsors of terrorism, so it should be no surprise that they would attempt to use terrorism to silence Iranians living in exile. The evil of this regime knows no limits. They will murder their own people wherever they speak out. Those responsible, including members of the regime in Tehran, must be held accountable.

The best hope for Iran and world peace is a regime change through free and fair elections. The land of Iran does not belong to the

mullahs. It belongs to the people of Iran. It is long past time for the people of Iran to get their land back. The United States should publicly and politically support a regime change from the evil tyrants of Iran.

The cause of freedom in Iran is just and righteous. It will never be silenced. In the end democracy and justice will prevail. The torch of freedom cannot be quenched.

And that's just the way it is.

IN HONOR OF THE PROMOTION OF  
LIEUTENANT COLONEL PAUL R.  
DELANO, JR. TO THE RANK OF  
COLONEL

##### HON. CHRIS COLLINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2018*

Mr. COLLINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Paul R. Delano, Jr. as he is promoted to Colonel in the United States Air Force Reserve.

Paul Delano, Jr. enlisted into the Air Force Reserve in 1986 and was assigned to the 914th Security Police Squadron at Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. In 2007, Paul deployed as Commander of the 407th Expeditionary Force Support Squadron, supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. Paul then became the first Force Support Squadron Commander assigned to the 914th Airlift Wing and in 2011, he deployed as Deputy Group Commander of the 651 Air Expeditionary Group to support Operation Enduring Freedom. Recently, he served as a House Legislative Liaison Officer for Secretary of the Air Force where he guided the staff of 67 members on Air Force priorities.

In addition to his service in the Air Force Reserve, Paul joined the Buffalo Police Department in 1988, serving as Lieutenant of Narcotics and SWAT. He has two daughters, Mary and Gina. Gina enlisted in the Air Force Reserve, following in her father's footsteps at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station.

I congratulate Paul on his promotion from Lieutenant Colonel to Colonel and his transition to Detachment 6 Commander at MacDill Air Force Base. I thank Paul Delano, Jr. for his service to our nation, his work for the Buffalo Police Department, and his unwavering support to the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station.

CELEBRATING THE CLINTON  
COUNTY FAIR'S 70TH YEAR

##### HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2018*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Clinton County Fair's 70th celebration.

Since its debut in 1948, what was then the Clinton County Agricultural and Industrial Fair has been known for showcasing Clinton County's agricultural industry. For 70 years, the Clinton County Fair has provided the surrounding community with a family-friendly environment filled with attractions while exposing all of its attendees to the world of agriculture. Each summer, the fair welcomes community

members to a variety of exciting exhibits and showcases all that the county's farmers and manufacturers have to offer. Attendees can experience livestock shows and demonstrations, a demolition derby, wildlife exhibits and more throughout the six-day celebration of the county's agricultural and industrial achievements.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I would like to congratulate the Clinton County Fair and its board on 70 years of honoring Clinton County agriculture, and join the residents of Clinton County in celebrating the important role that agriculture plays in their daily lives.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. LLOYD DOGGETT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2018*

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, due to flight difficulties out of my control, I missed the June 25th vote on H.R. 299, the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2018, a bill I have long been supportive of. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 289.

HONORING THE HISTORIC INAUGURATION OF SAN FRANCISCO  
MAYOR LONDON BREED

##### HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2018*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise with my colleagues, Congresswoman BARBARA LEE and Congresswoman JACKIE SPEIER, to recognize a historic moment: the inauguration of London Breed as the 45th Mayor of San Francisco on this day. Her swearing-in ceremony is a civil rights and public service milestone. London Breed will be the first African-American woman and only the second woman to serve as Mayor of our city. Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN was the first.

Mayor London Breed until recently served as President of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and Acting Mayor, leading San Francisco following the tragic passing of Mayor Edwin Lee. Her trailblazing leadership on the Board of Supervisors began when she first won election in November 2012. In January of 2015, her colleagues elected her President of the Board. She was re-elected as District 5 Supervisor in November 2016 and unanimously re-elected as Board President two months later.

London Breed's extraordinary and historic journey to Room 200 in City Hall began in a public housing project only blocks away. Raised by her grandmother in Plaza East Public Housing in the Western Addition, she has never forgotten where she comes from. She graduated with honors from Galileo High School and attended the University of California, Davis, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science/Public Service with a minor in African American Studies. She went on to earn a Master's degree in Public Administration from the University of San Francisco.

Before her election as District 5 Supervisor, Breed effectively served as Executive Director